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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date listed below.

Date: 8-1-03

Lisa D. Jones  
Lisa Jones

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application

Applicant: Shlomo Gabbay

Art Unit: 3738

Serial No.: 09/973,609

Examiner: B. Pellegrino

Filed: October 9, 2001

Title: IMPLANTATION SYSTEM FOR IMPLANTATION OF A HEART VALVE PROSTHESIS

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

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**RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

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Dear Sir:

In response to an Office Action dated July 2, 2003, Applicant through its undersigned attorney makes an election in the above-identified patent application. In particular, Applicant

elects: Species VI (FIG. 18) from the grouping entitled "valvular prosthesis" and Species C (FIGS. 19, 20) from the grouping entitled "Means to deploy the heart valve prosthesis."

The following claims are readable on the elected species VI (FIG. 18): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 5, 56, 57, 58, 59 and 60.

The following claims are readable on the elected species C (FIGS. 19, 20): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 5, 56, 57, 58, 59 and 60.

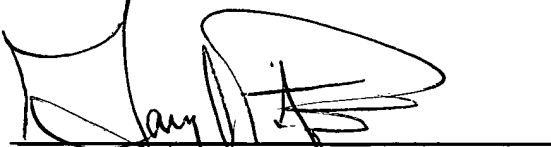
A substantive examination of the above-identified patent application on its merits is respectfully requested. Since most (if not all) of the above claims, which are readable on the elected species, are also readable on the non-elected species, it is presumed that searching conducted by the Office in this case will consider the breadth of all the pending claims.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No additional fees should be due for the additional claims in view of the cancellation of other claims from the subject application. In the event any fees are due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

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